

From: ["Thomas. Hattie" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B1EBAFC79FA94F308D9F6EBB0424E75A-THOMAS.HATTIE>](mailto:Thomas.Hattie@EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B1EBAFC79FA94F308D9F6EBB0424E75A-THOMAS.HATTIE)
To:
CC:
Date: 12/4/2013 4:43:57 PM
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 12/4/13

OPA Daily Digest for 12/4/13

Congressional Inquiries:

None

State Government Inquiries:

Gov. Terry Branstad (Iowa) 12/2/13: Questions on RFS hearing and meeting with Administrator. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (closed)

Rep. Bill Otto (Mo) 11/29/13: Questions on the Westlake Site. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

Press Inquiries:

Scripps - Mark Greenblatt – 11/22/13 – (Phase III) Follow-up questions regarding the status of the Doe Run consent agreement. Contact: David Bryan, 7433 (open)

Environmental Stories:

Salem News (N.C.) - Doe Run impacts the environment, and works to lessen that impact - 12/3/13 - Doe Run Company's primary smelter in Herculanum will be closing by agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency. North America's leading lead producer also agreed to spend over \$65 million to correct violations of environmental law, and an additional \$7 million in civil penalties. http://www.thesalemnewsonline.com/news/local_news/article_5d3ffd40-1fa3-11e3-b78c-0019bb30f31a.html

Media Matters for America - Gun Industry Lobby Debunks Right-Wing Media's Latest Ammo Supply Conspiracy Theory - 12/3/13 - The National Shooting Sports Foundation, the gun industry's trade group, is pushing back on a conspiracy theory promoted by right-wing media that the Obama administration is using the Environmental Protection Agency to eliminate the domestic ammunition supply. <http://mediamatters.org/blog/2013/12/03/gun-industry-lobby-debunks-right-wing-medias-la/197109>

Ammoland - Ammo Price Surge Expected as EPA Regulations Close Lead Smelter - 12/3/13 - Because of heightened EPA regulations, Doe Run Company's Herculanum lead smelter in Herculanum, Missouri—the last U.S. smelter of its kind—is closing its doors on December 31, 2013. Once this happens, all the lead for traditional ammunition will have to be imported, thus driving up the price for bullets, shotgun shells, etc. <http://www.ammoland.com/2013/12/ammo-price-surge-expected-as-epa-regulations-close-lead-smelter/>

Le Mars Daily Sentinel - Under the surface - EPA to host local meeting about PCE contamination – 12/3/13 - Tests found levels of a cancer-causing air contaminant are too high in two downtown Le Mars buildings. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is securing federal dollars to install a system to remove contamination in one occupied

building.

<http://www.lemarssentinel.com/story/2029535.html>

Miami Herald (blog) - Politifact Florida: Allen West blames 'Obama's EPA' for closing a smelter as evidence of 'back door gun control' - 12/2/13 - There is no evidence that it was a clandestine effort at back door gun control. Rather, the EPA's settlement with Doe Run had to do with emissions of a chemical that can cause serious injury and death to adults and children. And ammunition experts shot massive holes in the notion that the smelter's closure would cut production, reduce supply or raise the cost of ammunition. Pants on Fire! <http://www.politifact.com/florida/statements/2013/dec/03/allen-west/allen-west-blames-obamas-epa-closing-smelter-evide/>

Telegraph-Herald (Dubuque, Iowa) - Iowa DNR issues air quality alert for Dubuque, neighboring counties - 12/3/13 - The Iowa Department of Natural Resources has issued an air quality alert for portions of eastern Iowa, including Dubuque, Clayton, Delaware and Jackson counties. Fine particulate levels are at or above federal thresholds. http://www.thonline.com/news/public_announcements/article_044b2414-5c55-11e3-9994-0019bb30f31a.html

KWWL Ch. 7 Dubuque, Iowa - Air quality advisory for Waterloo, Cedar Rapids, Iowa City - 12/3/13 - The Iowa Department of Natural Resources issued an air quality advisory Tuesday after elevated fine particle pollution levels were recorded in several cities. <http://www.kwwl.com/story/24123010/2013/12/03/air-quality-advisory-issued-in-east-central-iowa>

Radio Iowa - Dirty air measured in east-central Iowa, expected to blow out with cold front - 12/4/13 - People in east-central Iowa woke up to foggy conditions Tuesday, and not only was there a lot of moisture in the air, but the Iowa Department of Natural Resources says the air was dirty too. DNR environmental specialist, Chris Maiers, says air monitors registered high levels of what's called "particle pollution" in several cities. <http://www.radioiowa.com/2013/12/04/dirty-air-measured-in-east-central-iowa-expected-to-blow-out-with-cold-front/>

Quad-City Times - Air quality is bad in Davenport, east-central Iowa - 12/3/13 - Fine particle pollution is above federal thresholds in Davenport and across east-central Iowa today, according to the state Department of Natural Resources. http://qctimes.com/news/local/air-quality-is-bad-in-davenport-east-central-iowa/article_ddc76cd5-b61a-5a76-aec0-a2efdbd24054.html

Des Moines Register - Branstad reasserts his support for renewable fuels - 12/4/13 - One day after visiting Houston for a campaign fundraising trip with wealthy Texans, Gov. Terry Branstad insisted Tuesday that he doesn't owe any political favors to the oil industry and he isn't retreating from his support of Iowa's ethanol producers. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20131204/NEWS/312040062/1056/NEWS05>

Columbia Missourian - Columbia biofuel company gets \$500,000 grant - 12/3/13 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture awarded a \$500,000 grant to a local biofuel company partnering with the city of Columbia's electric utility, allowing the firm to find and equip a facility in Mid-Missouri to begin manufacturing its biomass pellets. http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/local/columbia-biofuel-company-gets-grant/article_7db95430-5c4e-11e3-b07f-10604b9f6eda.html

Kearney Hub (Neb.) - Tests show flood had minor impact on Platte's water quality - 12/3/13 - Floodwaters that originated in the South Platte Basin along the Front Range of Colorado's Rocky Mountains and continued through Nebraska in late September and early October created no serious water quality problems. http://www.kearneyhub.com/news/local/tests-show-flood-had-minor-impact-on-platte-s-water/article_3e08ffe2-1be1-5756-95db-8032c0571661.html

Quad-City Times - Sunken towboat should be completely raised in a few days - 12/4/13 - Working in a light mist Tuesday, about 60 people continued salvage of the sunken towboat Stephen L. Colby near LeClaire. http://qctimes.com/news/local/towboat-salvage-river-cleanup-continue/article_c7c15db6-8807-5feb-a8eb-c3a92f25f9ad.html

USA Today - Obama environmental adviser is leaving - 12/3/13 - President Obama is losing one of his top environmental advisers. Nancy Sutley, who since 2009 has chaired the White House Council on Environmental Quality, will step down in February. <http://www.usatoday.com/story/theoval/2013/12/03/obama-nancy-sutley-white-house-council-on-environmental-quality/3861641/>

Los Angeles Times - Studies warn of abrupt environmental effects of warming - 12/4/13 - One report says sudden climate shifts could appear in years or decades and calls for an early warning system. Another says a widely accepted emissions cap is too high. Studies warn of abrupt environmental effects of warming. One report says sudden climate

shifts could appear in years or decades and calls for an early warning system. Another says a widely accepted emissions cap is too high. <http://www.latimes.com/science/la-me-climate-urgency-20131204.0.7482587.story>

Farm Futures - EPA, USDA Roll Out Expanded Water Quality Trading - 12/4/13 - The USDA and EPA Tuesday announced an expanded partnership to advance water quality trading, a market-based system that uses pollutant reduction credits to improve compliance with Clean Water Act requirements. <http://farmfutures.com/story-epa-usda-roll-expanded-water-quality-trading-0-105679>

Lawrence Journal-World - City opens compressed natural gas station to test usage in city vehicles - 12/3/13 - Lawrence city officials are taking another step in evaluating whether large fleets of city vehicles — like trash trucks and transit buses — ought to be fueled by compressed natural gas. <http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2013/dec/03/city-opens-compressed-natural-gas-station-test-usa/>

Associated Press - Large oil companies pulling up stakes in Kansas - 12/2/13 - The economic future seemed so tantalizing just two years ago as the nation's big oil firms rushed into Kansas. Things have changed. Most of those big out-of-state players are gone. <http://fuelfix.com/blog/2013/12/02/large-oil-companies-pulling-up-stakes-in-kansas/>

NRDC Switchboard (blog) - ALEC preparing attacks on EPA carbon pollution standards - 12/3/13 - This week, the polluter-funded American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) is holding its annual meeting in DC, and the obstruction of EPA progress to reduce carbon pollution is front and center on its Environment Task Force agenda. http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/ahaq/alec_preparing_attacks_on_epa.html

Kansas City Star - Bannister Federal Complex coming down in 2016 - 12/4/13 - The Bannister Federal Complex, a massive defense plant built in World War II to manufacture warplane engines and continued into the Cold War and beyond making nuclear weapons parts, is expected to be demolished beginning in 2016 and prepared for future redevelopment. <http://www.kansascity.com/2013/12/04/4668483/bannister-federal-complex-coming.html>

Agriculture.com - Good cop, bad cop on nutrient management - 12/4/13 - At its annual meeting in Des Moines this week, the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation is promoting the state's voluntary nutrient management plan, showcasing some of its most conservation-minded members. But just in case no one is taking Iowa's Water Quality Initiative seriously, Don Parrish had arrived from the American Farm Bureau Federation's Washington office to share EPA's plans for regulating water quality. http://www.agriculture.com/news/crops/good-cop-bad-cop-on-nutrient-magement_2-ar35903

Kirksville Daily News - Power play | An energy war is brewing as the coal industry battles the EPA - 12/4/13 - Ask the average American if he or she wants a clean environment and affordable energy, and they'd likely answer "yes." But is that possible? The American consumer may be on the verge of finding out. <http://www.kirksvilledailyexpress.com/article/20131204/NEWS/131209536/1001/NEWS>

Post-Crescent (Appleton, Wisc.) - Secret expenses revealed behind Obama's ethanol power push - 12/3/13 - The hills of southern Iowa bear the scars of America's push for green energy: The brown gashes where rain has washed away the soil. The polluted streams that dump fertilizer into the water supply. The ethanol era has proven far more damaging to the environment than politicians promised and much worse than the government admits today. <http://www.postcrescent.com/viewart/20131203/APC0101/311140458/Secret-expenses-revealed-behind-Obama-s-ethanol-power-push>

Dairy Herd Network - Cows singled out again on gas emissions - 12/4/13 - Last year, a couple of scientific organizations in Boulder, Colo., made outlandish claims about gas emissions and cows. A second study has been done. And if it's Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas, it must be cows and oil/natural gas extraction that's causing the problem! Then, the news media picks up on it and starts blaming cows. <http://www.dairyherd.com/blogs/Cows-singled-out-again-on-gas-emissions-234430011.html>

Beatrice Sun (Neb.) - Moratorium placed on new well construction - 12/3/13 - Farmers looking to install new irrigation wells in 2014 will be asked to wait after a moratorium was placed on the construction of new wells in the Lower Big Blue Natural Resources District last week. Exceptions to the stay include test holes, de-watering wells with an intended use of one year or less, monitoring wells, EPA remediation wells, water wells for range livestock, replacement wells and water wells of public water suppliers. http://beatricedailysun.com/news/local/moratorium-placed-on-new-well-construction/article_7fe43767-48f5-5239-9086-a132f32bcd9f.html

Omaha World-Herald - County sees drop-off in number of kids with high lead levels - 12/3/13 - Lead levels in the blood of Douglas County children have dropped dramatically over the past several years, but more work is needed, county health officials said Monday. <http://www.omaha.com/article/20131203/LIVEWELL01/131209725>

Wichita Business Journal - Shell: New unleaded avgas shows promise - 12/3/13 - Shell Aviation, a division of energy company Royal Dutch Shell, on Tuesday announced that it has successfully developed a potential unleaded replacement for 100 low-lead aviation gasoline. <http://www.bizjournals.com/wichita/news/2013/12/03/shell-new-unleaded-avgas-shows-promise.html>

National Hog Farmer - Building Support for the King Amendment - 12/4/13 - Iowa officials have sent a letter this week to Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA) to marshal support for the farm bill amendment proposed by Rep. Steve King (R-IA) which would prevent individual states from dictating agriculture production practices in other states. <http://nationalhogfarmer.com/business/building-support-king-amendment>

Beef Producer (blog) - Is Livestock The Great Hope For The Ogallala Aquifer? - 12/3/13 - Just think: Livestock puts much less pressure on the resource and returns much more money per gallon of water withdrawn. It makes livestock production sound pretty good! <http://beefproducer.com/blogs-livestock-great-hope-ogallala-aquifer-7874>

Biomass Magazine - ABFA president: RFS proposal is 'industry's worst nightmare' - 12/4/13 - As the Advanced Biofuels Association gears up for U.S. EPA's Dec. 5 public hearing on the renewable fuel standard 2 (RFS) 2014 renewable volume obligation proposal, President Michael McAdams provided a preview on main points the ABFA plans to make during its testimony. <http://biomassmagazine.com/articles/9752/abfa-president-rfs-proposal-is-undefinedindustryundefineds-worst-nightmareundefined/>

Domestic Fuel - Farmers Head to Washington in Defense of the RFS - 12/4/13 - The National Corn Growers Association says by cutting the amount of corn ethanol required by 10 percent it will affect corn prices and rural economies. Farmers plans to tell EPA their personal stories of what such an action would reap across rural America. <http://domesticfuel.com/2013/12/04/farmers-head-to-washington-in-defense-of-the-rfs/>

Climate Central - For First Time in 20 Years, Cold Records May Beat Warm - 12/2/13 - With a large chunk of the U.S. having endured one of the coldest Thanksgiving holidays in years and even more brutally cold weather in the forecast over the next few days, 2013 is poised to have daily record lows outnumber daily record highs for the first time in 20 years. <http://www.climatecentral.org/news/for-first-time-in-20-years-cold-records-may-beat-warm-in-u.s-16790>

EnergyWire - U.S. shale oil a threat to pipeline, Canadian memo says - 12/2/13 - Surging U.S. light oil output may jeopardize approval of TransCanada Corp.'s Keystone XL pipeline project, Canadian leaders have suggested in internal documents. http://www.eenews.net/energywire/stories/1059991126/climate_digest

The Hill - DOE official defends administration carbon capture rules - 12/3/13 - A senior Energy Department official went to bat for carbon capture technologies that the Obama administration is pushing for new coal-fired power plants. <http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/191933-doe-official-defends-administration-carbon-capture-rules>

Politico - Report: Prepare for climate tipping points - 12/4/13 - Climate change isn't just a problem facing future generations, a new scientific report warns, saying the planet could suffer serious and abrupt climate threats in the next few years or decades — leaving nations with a narrow window to adapt. <http://www.politico.com/story/2013/12/national-research-council-report-climate-change-could-hit-tipping-points-environment-100615.html>

Forbes (blog) - EPA's New Overseer Of 'Scientific Integrity': The Blind Leading The Blind - 12/4/13 - EPA has chosen Francesca Grifo as its "scientific integrity official." Grifo previously oversaw the scientific integrity program at the Union of Concerned Scientists – an oxymoron if there ever was one. UCS is well known for exploiting every opportunity to distort science to further its radical, anti-technology agendas. <http://www.forbes.com/sites/henrymiller/2013/12/04/epas-new-overseer-of-scientific-integrity-the-blind-leading-the-blind/>

The Telegraph (U.K.) - UN warning as 'extremely dangerous' radioactive material stolen in Mexico - 12/4/13 - A truck carrying cobalt-60 - which could be used in a dirty bomb - was seized while travelling to a radioactive waste disposal centre, the UN nuclear agency reported. <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/centralamericaandthecaribbean/mexico/10494018/UN-warning-as-extremely-dangerous-radioactive-material-stolen-in-Mexico.html>

National Journal - Lawmakers Say EPA's 'Energy Star' Program Lacks Transparency - 12/3/13 - A bipartisan group of lawmakers is raising concerns that the Environmental

Protection Agency has not been transparent in drafting energy-efficiency standards under the Energy Star program. <http://www.nationaljournal.com/energy/lawmakers-say-epa-s-energy-star-program-lacks-transparency-20131203>

MIT Technology Review - Colored Plastic Doubles Solar Cell Power | Using plastic to absorb light could lower the cost of solar power - 12/3/13 - A thin sheet of dyed plastic could cut the cost of solar power, particularly for applications that require solar cells to be highly efficient and flexible. <http://www.technologyreview.com/news/522156/colored-plastic-doubles-solar-cell-power/>

Midwest Energy News - 'Soft costs' grow as portion of the price for solar power - 12/4/13 - In two reports issued Monday, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory stressed that soft costs now account for well over half of all spending on U.S. solar projects. <http://www.midwestenergynews.com/2013/12/04/soft-costs-grow-as-portion-of-the-price-for-solar-power/>

ClimateWire - Sutley's exit from CEQ leaves Obama with unfinished carbon plan - 12/4/13 - The last of President Obama's top-level climate advisers is exiting the administration, leaving the gritty work of implementing -- and defending -- his plan to cut carbon emissions to elevated holdouts. <http://www.eenews.net/climatewire/stories/1059991265/>

NPR All Things Considered - Ready Or Not. Abrupt Climate Changes Worry Scientists Most (+audio) - 12/3/13 - An expert panel at the National Academy of Sciences is to alert us to abrupt and potentially catastrophic events triggered by climate change. <http://www.npr.org/2013/12/03/248474721/ready-or-not-quick-climate-changes-worry-scientists-most>

Aljazeera America - Report: Early warning system needed for abrupt climate changes - 12/4/13 - Hard-to-predict sudden changes to Earth's environment are more worrisome than climate change's bigger but more gradual impacts, a panel of scientists advising the U.S. government concluded Tuesday. <http://america.aljazeera.com/articles/2013/12/3/climate-change-reportnew.html>

Charlotte Observer (N.C.) - Duke's coal ash kills, deforms fish, study says - 12/3/13 - Pollution from coal ash at a Duke Energy power plant in Wilmington kills hundreds of thousands of young fish a year and deforms many more, says a study commissioned by environmental groups that are suing Duke. <http://www.charlotteobserver.com/2013/12/03/4516452/dukes-coal-ash-kills-deforms-fish.html>

ClimateWire - Scientists call for early warning system for sudden climate change impacts - 12/4/13 - Though average temperatures may slowly creep higher over the coming century, the changes they induce around the world may be sudden and severe, faster than societies can adapt. <http://www.eenews.net/climatewire/stories/1059991266/>

Yale Environment 360 - New Paper Offers Sweeping Plan to Decarbonize the Global Economy - 12/4/13 - Eighteen prominent international climate scientists and economists have authored a paper that seeks to answer the most vexing environmental question facing the planet: How to reverse soaring carbon dioxide emissions and prevent the world from experiencing destabilizing climate change. http://e360.yale.edu/digest/new_paper_offers_sweeping_plan_to_decarbonize_the_global_economy/4018/

E&E News Daily - Carbon capture ready for EPA rule, Obama nominee tells senators - 12/4/13 - President Obama's nominee to lead the Department of Energy's fossil energy research efforts, says carbon capture, utilization and sequestration (CCUS) technology is ready to fulfill U.S. EPA's proposed greenhouse gas standard for new power plants. <http://www.eenews.net/eedaily/stories/1059991254>

BNA - Final Work on Water Resources Bill Could Be Delayed Until 2014 Session - 12/4/13 - Completion of water resources legislation looks increasingly unlikely this year, House lawmakers told Bloomberg BNA. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=38487467&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e3v9q7a7&split=0

BNA - EPA, USDA Set Partnership to Promote Water Quality Trading to Reduce Pollution - 12/4/13 - The Environmental Protection Agency and the Agriculture Department announced Dec. 3 their intent to collaborate on programs to promote water quality trading programs to reduce nutrients, sediments and other pollutants in U.S. waters. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=38487441&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e3u4u2y9&split=0

BNA - Chamber of Commerce Bolsters Legal Team To Combat 'Tsunami' of Obama Regulations - 12/4/13 - U.S. Chamber of Commerce President Thomas Donohue said the

organization is increasing its legal efforts and hiring counsel to fight the "tsunami" of regulations that have come from the Obama administration.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=38487466&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e3v9q4c0&split=0

BNA - EPA Final Rule on Coal Ash Not Expected Within Next 12 Months, Barring Court Action - 12/4/13 - The Environmental Protection Agency has shifted its rulemaking on the management of coal ash to its "long-term action" list, meaning a final regulation is unlikely in the next 12 months unless a federal court intercedes.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=38487451&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e3u5c8f7&split=0

BNA - Obama Administration Extends Federal Building Energy Efficiency Program - 12/3/13 - The Obama administration announced Dec. 3 an extension of the energy efficiency initiative requiring federal agencies to enter into energy savings performance contracts.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=38487445&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e3u4y0k8&split=0

Inside EPA - Biofuel Groups Criticize RFS Ahead Of EPA Hearing - 12/3/13 - Biofuel groups are claiming that EPA exceeded its statutory authority with its recent proposal to lower fuel producers' total biofuel blending obligations under the 2014 renewable fuel standard (RFS). <http://cleanenergyreport.com/201312032454597/Clean-Energy-Report-Blog/Clean-Energy-Wire/biofuel-groups-criticize-rfs-ahead-of-epa-hearing/menu-id-204.html>

Inside EPA - Chamber Vows To Fight Regulatory 'Tsunami' During Obama's Second Term - 12/3/13 - U.S. Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Thomas Donohue is outlining how the powerful business trade group hopes to marshal its legal and lobbying resources to stem an "unprecedented flow" of regulations that he says are harming business.

<http://insideepa.com/201312042454718/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/chamber-vows-to-fight-regulatory-tsunami-during-obamas-second-term/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - Environmentalists Claim Weak EPA Response To PM2.5 Policy Remand - 12/3/13 - Environmentalists claim EPA is taking a weak approach in its response to an appellate court decision remand that required the agency to more strictly regulate areas not attaining the federal fine particulate matter (PM2.5) air standard.

<http://insideepa.com/201312032454716/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/environmentalists-claim-weak-epa-response-to-pm25-policy-remand/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - Environmentalists Cite EPA Legal Brief To Attack Utility MACT 'Averaging' - 12/3/13 - The Sierra Club is stepping up its legal attack on EPA's decision to allow emissions "averaging" in its utility air toxics rule in litigation over the policy.

<http://insideepa.com/Clean-Air-Report/Clean-Air-Report-12/05/2013/environmentalists-cite-epa-legal-brief-to-attack-utility-mact-averaging/menu-id-68.html>

Inside EPA - Updated EPA Agenda Includes Few New Policies, Extends Rules' Deadlines - 12/3/13 - EPA's recently updated regulatory agenda for fall 2013 includes few new air, waste, water or toxics policies and also extends self-imposed deadlines for a suite of regulations compared to the previous spring 2013 agenda, hinting that much of EPA's focus in the coming months will be on processing many long-pending final rules and proposals.

<http://insideepa.com/Clean-Air-Report/Clean-Air-Report-12/05/2013/updated-epa-agenda-includes-few-new-policies-extends-rules-deadlines/menu-id-68.html>

Inside EPA - Congressional Research Service Downplays Cost, Benefit Of Climate NSPS - 12/3/13 - The Congressional Research Service (CRS) is downplaying both the costs and benefits of EPA's pending climate new source performance standard (NSPS) for future power plants.

<http://insideepa.com/Clean-Air-Report/Clean-Air-Report-12/05/2013/congressional-research-service-downplays-cost-benefit-of-climate-nsps/menu-id-68.html>

Inside EPA - Judges Doubt EPA Power To Revoke Ozone Transportation Planning Mandate - 12/3/13 - Appellate court judges at oral arguments signaled they might back environmentalists' claims that EPA lacked power to revoke transportation air quality planning mandates for some areas that recently attained the agency's 2008 ozone standard.

<http://insideepa.com/Clean-Air-Report/Clean-Air-Report-12/05/2013/judges-doubt-epa-power-to-revoke-ozone-transportation-planning-mandate/menu-id-68.html>

Inside EPA - Key EPA Utility Air Rules Face Major Tests In Appellate, Supreme Court - 12/3/13 - Two major EPA power plant sector rules are set for major legal tests at separate oral arguments Dec. 10, with the Supreme Court poised to hear the agency's appeal of a ruling that scrapped its Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) and a federal appeals court panel hearing industry and states' challenge to EPA's utility air toxics rule.

<http://insideepa.com/Clean-Air-Report/Clean-Air-Report-12/05/2013/key-epa-utility-air-rules-face-major-tests-in-appellate-supreme-court/menu-id-68.html>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

La EPA y el DOE publican guía anual de eficiencia de combustible para vehículos modelos del 2014 – 12/3/13 – Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

12/5/13 – RA Meeting, Washington DC. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

12/9/13 – Region 7 Senior Management Retreat, National Archives at Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Wendy Lubbe, 7551

12/10/13 – EJ Small Grant Event, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Brendan Corraza, 7429

***12/10/13** – Choteau Gateway Discussion with St. Louis Mayor, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

***12/13/13** – MDNR All Hands Meeting – Guest Speaker, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

12/16/13 – Interagency Environmental Leadership Council, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Ron Hammerschmidt, 7566

***12/16/13** – West Lake Landfill CAG Meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Hattie Thomas, 7762

12/18/13 – Missouri Agribusiness Association Annual Convention, Columbia, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

12/19/13 – Four State Directors Meeting, Regional Office, Wendy Lubbe, 7551

DRA:

12/5-6/13 – Executive Management Council, Washington DC. Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

12/9/13 – Region 7 Senior Management Retreat, National Archives at Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Wendy Lubbe, 7551

12/19/13 – Four State Directors Meeting, Regional Office, Wendy Lubbe, 7551

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

12/4/13 – EPA, Pipeline Hazardous Materials and Safety Administration, and the Nebraska Emergency Response Commission hosting a joint, grants training workshop, Regional Office. Contact: Patrick Bustos, 7969

12/5/13 – Kansas Emergency Response Commission meeting, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Fatima Ndiaye, 7383

12/12/2013 – Attending outreach session with Iowa Utilities on Carbon Pollution Standards, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Mark Smith, 7876

12/12/13 – Missouri Emergency Response Commission meeting, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact: Pat Reitz, 7674

12/18/13 – Missouri Ag Conference, Columbia, Mo. Contacts: Pat Reitz, 7674 and George Hess, 7540

12/12/2013 – Attending outreach session with Iowa Utilities on Carbon Pollution Standards, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Mark Smith, 7876

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ

***12/10/13** – EJ Small Grant Event, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Brendan Corazzin, 7429

ENSV

None

PLMG

None

RA/OPA

None

SUPR

None

WWPD

12/10-11/13 – Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Set-Aside Review / Public Water System Supervision meeting, Des Moines, Ia. Contact: Neftali Hernandez-Santiago, 7036

12/10-11/13 – University of Iowa Extreme Weather Conference, Des Moines, Ia. Contact: Stan Calow, 7410

12/16/13 – Environmental Protection Agency / Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Public Water System Supervision meeting, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact: Neftali Hernandez-Santiago, 7036

12/18/13 – Area Wide Drinking Water Optimization meeting, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact: Neftali Hernandez-Santiago, 7036

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